

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 2 and 5 were pending in this Application before Applicants' Amendment of April 1, 2008. In Applicants' Amendment of April 1, 2008, which is incorporated herein by reference, Applicants canceled claims 2 and 5. New claims 13-23 were added.

Applicants respectfully submit that support for the newly added claims can be found throughout the specification, the original claims, and the drawings. Claims 13-23 are now pending in the Application after entry of this Amendment. No new matter has been entered.

Applicants have added new claim 13 directed to the subject matter of cancelled claim 2. Thus, new claim 13 is similarly drawn to the elected Group 2 for a signal flow driven circuit physical synthesis technique, classified in class 716, subclass 18. For the purposes of illustration:

Canceled Claim 2	New Claim 13
A signal flow driven circuit physical synthesis technique by	A computer-implemented method for physical synthesis of integrated circuits, the method comprising:
	receiving information indicative of an integrated circuit;
tracing circuit signal flow so that,	tracing signal flow in the integrated circuit to determine a set of critical signal paths;
placing and routing circuit cell physical layout based on giving critical signal path with high priority are done by software program automatically.	placing and routing one or more circuit cells in a physical layout associated with the integrated circuit based on a priority associated with a critical signal path in the set of critical signal paths.

Applicants have also added new claim 15 directed to the subject matter of cancelled claim 5. Thus, new claim 15 is similarly drawn to the elected Group 2 for a signal

flow driven circuit physical synthesis technique, classified in class 716, subclass 18. For the purposes of illustration:

Canceled Claim 5	New Claim 15
A method for performing circuit physical synthesis utilizing:	A computer-implemented method for physical synthesis of integrated circuits, the method comprising:
	receiving information indicative of an integrated circuit;
(a) generating a layout constraint using open circuit time constant technique on a multitude of critical nodes,	generating a plurality of circuit layout constraints using an open circuit time constant technique on each node in a plurality of critical nodes associated with the integrated circuit;
(b) applying the signal flow driven circuit physical synthesis technique of claim 2, and	tracing signal flow within the integrated circuit to determine a set of critical signal paths;
	placing and routing one or more circuit cells automatically in the physical layout associated with the integrated circuit based on a priority associated with a critical signal path in the set of critical signal paths.
(c) applying a signal flow driven circuit analysis technique tracing circuit signal flow so that, analyzing a circuit, and partitioning a circuit is based on functionality and criticality, and generating a multitude of circuit layout constraints are done by a software program.	partitioning the physical layout associated with the integrated circuit based on functionality and criticality;

Applicants have further added new claim 23 directed to the subject matter of cancelled claim 5. Thus, new claim 23 is similarly drawn to the elected Group 2 for a signal flow driven circuit physical synthesis technique, classified in class 716, subclass 18.

Applicants respectfully submit the new claims 14 and 16-22 that depend either directly or indirectly from new claims 13 and 15, respectively are also readable on the elected Group 2. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action that “only” claims drawn to non-elected inventions are presented. As discussed above, each of the new independent claims 13, 15, and 23, and their respective dependent claims, are directed to a signal flow driven circuit physical synthesis technique, classified in class 716, subclass 18 and this readable on the elected invention of Group 2.

**CONCLUSION**

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

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